

Senate president proposes lowering curricular fee soon

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Northwest officials presented the University's overall budget for fiscal year 2021 at the latest Student Senate meeting March 2. In that presentation, officials said Northwest does not plan on gaining or losing revenue.

Vice President of Finance and Administration Stacy Carrick and Vice President of Student Affairs Matt Baker led the presentation over the University's overall budget in the J.W. Jones Student Union Ballroom. Carrick and Baker said in order for the Student Senate to understand the potential effects of changing the co-curricular fee, they had to understand the entire University budget.

"We budgeted the same amount of expenses as revenues ... we do not budget a profit," Carrick said in the presentation. "Our goal is to break even on an annual basis."

The University estimated in the Education and General budget — the largest revenue driver for Northwest — that expenses would total \$99,344,593 for the fiscal year 2021.

Northwest expected revenues to match that figure. For the Auxiliary Services budget for the fiscal year 2021, the University projected \$25,363,300 in expenses and also plans to break even with its revenues.

Co-curricular Fee

After the budget, Student Senate President Kirayle Jones started the conversation on changing the co-curricular fee that is charged to students' accounts every year.

SEE SENATE | A4



ANDREW WEGLEY | NW MISSOURIAN

In a file photo, Gov. Mike Parson visits Northwest for events Nov. 10, 2020 as part of his Veterans Day tour to Missouri universities. Parson nominated Stephen Coppinger, I-Kansas City, Mo., and Shanda Durbin, I-St. Joseph, Mo. March 3 for two vacant positions on the Board of Regents.

Northwest's Board of Regents — the governing body that oversees the University's operations and is largely responsible for its sound financial management — could soon have two new members, as Gov. Mike Parson announced the appointment of two additional voting members March 3.

Parson, a Republican, nominated Stephen Coppinger, an independent from Kansas City, Missouri, and Shanda Durbin, an independent from St. Joseph, Missouri, to the Board Wednesday afternoon, filling two vacant seats on the governing body, one of which sat open for a full year.

While the Board is meant to be made up of eight voting members and a nonvoting student regent, only six voting regents are actively serving on Northwest's chief governing council, leaving a pair of seats unfilled until Parson's latest nominees are confirmed by Missouri's Senate, as a potential presidential search looms over the University.

Coppinger fills the seat of former Chair of the Board Marilou Joyner, D-Kansas City, whose term expired Jan. 1. If confirmed, he

Northwest Board of Regents sits incomplete

Governor appoints two to Board, awaiting Missouri Senate confirmation

ANDREW WEGLEY

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will serve until 2027. Durbin, if confirmed by the Senate, will serve until Jan. 1, 2023, finishing out the remainder of the term left by George Speckman, an independent from St. Joseph who quietly resigned last March.

Northwest's Board of Regents bylaws mandate that a new regent should be "immediately" appointed in the event that a regent dies, resigns or is removed from their office — but nearly a year after Speckman departed, Parson had not addressed the vacancy.

The vacancies have yet to actually affect the Board in its formal processes — only five regents are required to be present for the governing body to officially meet — but the empty seats "can impact" the Board's ability to conduct business, Chair of the Board John Moore, an independent from Raymore, Missouri, told The Missourian.

Five "yes" votes are required to approve action items concerning the appropriation of money and personnel matters, regardless of how many members are serving on the Board.

SEE REGENTS | A4

UPD receives department of justice certificate

KENDRICK CALFEE

News Editor | @calfee_kc

Northwest's University Police Department received certification from the U.S. Department of Justice March 1 by meeting criteria for safe policing communities.

Safe Policing for Safe Communities is a presidential executive order that came from former President Donald Trump's administration. It complies with a federal directive that all law enforcement will not allow choke holds and will have a duty to intervene.

UPD received a notice that it would need to comply by a certain date to be eligible for federal funding. Since UPD reviews general policies and requirements every year, the department was already in compliance but needed to submit documentation stating so. The certification compliance is valid for three years.

UPD's Lieutenant of Operations Anthony Williams has been with the department for 10 years. He said a lot has changed since he began working there, and that the shift to community-oriented policing has been a benefit.

"One of the biggest things now is that a lot of agencies are looking at us to try to, you know, I won't say copy but try to understand how our social media has grown," Williams said.

SEE UPD | A4



ADDALYNN BRADBURY | NW MISSOURIAN

John McBride sits in the empty rows of the Calvary Church where he spends many hours of his week. If elected, McBride aspires to improve city roads and conserve tax payer dollars.

Running to build solid foundation

McBride a candidate for upcoming contested City Council election

KENDRICK CALFEE

News Editor | @calfee_kc

A road tucked away on the south end of Maryville leads locals to Calvary Chapel, a welcoming building and Christian ministry where Maryville City Council candidate John McBride spends many hours of his week. Sitting in the middle row of chairs and facing the altar, McBride thinks back to a message he might have heard here during a Sunday morning or Wednesday evening.

"The man who builds his house on the sand and the man who builds his house on rock," McBride said.

This outlook, McBride said, is what he wishes to apply to city government, if elected — recognizing

a solid foundation and building upon it.

McBride, 50, has thought about running in local government for several years. But the timing felt best for this election, in April 2021, when the city is nearing a year of pandemic-related issues and amplified concerns have flooded the inboxes and gathering places of Maryville's City Council.

With at least 30 years experience working in manufacturing, McBride describes himself as a boring candidate. He has no flashy catch phrase or campaign slogan that touts public service experience. McBride, rather, prides himself on being a voice less heard.

SEE MCBRIDE | A4

Trial date postponed in jail fire charges

KENDRICK CALFEE

News Editor | @calfee_kc

Ethen Mark Bentley, 29, was scheduled to attend court virtually for initial arraignment March 1 on one charge of arson in the first degree — a charge given in relation to the fire that ensued Jan. 14 at the Nodaway County jail.

Bentley's arraignment was rescheduled to March 8 after 4th Judicial Circuit Judge Roger Prokes spoke with Rachel Townsend, the defense attorney on the case, via video conference. Bentley was being transported from Buchanan County to Platte County at the time of proceedings.

A Missouri State Fire Marshal probable cause statement detailed what footage captured from the fire and described why they charged Bentley.

"It is your affiant's opinion that Ethen Mark Bentley started a fire in the cell he was solely occupying," wrote Fire Investigator Jacob Denum. "Mr. Bentley showed complete disregard for the other three inmates that were secured in close proximity to the fire."

At the time of the fire, Bentley was being held in jail with two counts of first degree assault, one count of domestic assault, one count of first degree property damage and resisting a lawful stop.

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Campus honors women’s suffrage



Dr. Elyssa Ford speaks to her class about the Civil Rights Movement March 3 in Valk Hall. She also teaches a class on women’s history, which will be offered in the fall 2021 semester.

University celebrates strides for equality

SIDNEY LOWRY
News Reporter I @sidney_lowry

Northwest is hosting its annual Women’s History Month to celebrate women’s contributions to the past, the present and the future.

This year’s national theme is Valiant Women of the Vote: Refusing to be Silenced. The theme was originally intended to be used last year to commemorate the 100-year anniversary of women’s suffrage but was postponed to this year due to campus shutting down because

of COVID-19.

There will be weekly activities for the month to honor women throughout history and the changes they made to make life as it is today. Elyssa Ford, an associate professor of history, who is helping plan events for the month, said that they don’t just celebrate women in history, they also recognize women who are currently making history.

“There are so many people they recognize that go with the theme, both in the past and people today,” Ford said.

This year, the Women’s History Month Advisory Board put on events in collaboration with organizations and offices all around campus. Included in the events for the history month are the Missouri GOLD program, First Ladies Organization, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Department of Fine and Performing Arts and Language, Literature and Writing Department.

The first event of the month is March 9 with a showing of “Disclosure,” a movie about transgender representation in the media. There will be a discussion after the screening about the portrayal, and all e on campus are welcome to attend.

“There’s so much discussion of trans people and identities,” Ford said. “We wanted to show this film to say that we are inclusive at Northwest not only of trans people but also their identity in Women’s History Month.”

At 7 p.m. March 18 at the J.W. Jones Student Union Ballroom, Sigma Alpha Iota - Epsilon Phi will perform songs of suffrage written by women fighting for their right to vote.

Right after there is also going to be a presentation from Ford on the history of women’s suffrage in Nodaway County.

FULL STORY ONLINE:
NWMISSOURINEWS.COM

Northwest to award influential women

KAILEE FORD
News Reporter I @kailee_ford

Northwest kicked off Women’s History Month by announcing open nominations for the Influential Women of Northwest Award on campus.

Nominations will be accepted until Mar. 15 and will include female students, staff and faculty.

The award has been a small part of Northwest’s history for years but started gaining momentum recently with the help of associate professor of history Elyssa Ford.

When Ford started working at Northwest in 2011, she said there were not many events related to Women’s History Month. She quickly worked to change that by restarting Women’s History Month celebrations and events on campus.

“I felt that as someone who teaches women’s history on campus, we needed to do something to bring more focus to women, specifically at Northwest,” Ford said.

The award is split into three sections that recognize a female faculty member, a staff member and a student. Along with winners, all nominees for the awards will be recognized.

Ford said the award has an inconsistent record due to the fact that much of the past information about it has only now been recorded digitally starting in the early 2000s. It has now become more consistently practiced and recorded since 2019.

Ford expressed that the timing of the award’s comeback was historically perfect because the 19th

Amendment, which granted women the right to vote, celebrated 100 years in 2020 since its ratification in 1920.

The Influential Women of Northwest Award has been kept separate from other awards the University showcases at this time because Ford and others who have assisted in Women’s History Month on campus wanted it to stand out.

“This award is a way to bring attention to the work women do and should be recognized as for influential females on campus,” Ford said.

Instructor Jacquie Lamer, last year’s recipient of the faculty award, was surprised to have been picked.

“I never considered myself to fall into any kind of award-winning category, especially not one that would focus on influential women,” Lamer said.

Lamer said that there are many mixed feelings when it comes to honors such as this, and that despite her excitement, she wasn’t sure if she was the right pick.

On the past winners page of the Northwest website, Lamer’s description notes that she was involved in the “We Gotchya” campaign, bringing cost-free feminine products to campus and Haiti.

“I think this award can bring not only women achievement, but also women’s issues, such as periods, to the surface,” Lamer said.

Lamer also commended Ford for all the work she has done to bring women’s issues to light on campus and her work with the award and women’s history.

Ford said that it is important to recognize women, especially female faculty, for the work they do not only on campus but in everyday life, because historically, female faculty have been expected to do more work and service than their male counterparts.

FULL STORY ONLINE:
NWMISSOURINEWS.COM

Hudson-Perrin halls closed entryways for cold weather

SIDNEY LOWRY
News Reporter I @sidney_lowry

On one of the coldest weeks of winter in Maryville, residents of Hudson-Perrin halls were asked to only use the front and back main entrances due to the problem of heating the side stairwells.

From Feb. 11-22, due to temperatures below zero that had been sweeping their way through town, students’ key fobs were shut off to help with the circulation of heat throughout the residence halls. They were still allowed to exit the buildings but entrance through the side doors was prohibited.

Hudson-Perrin Resident Director Trey Carlson said this was a provision based solely from the steady

ly low temperatures.

“It wasn’t just really cold for a little bit; it was consistently in the negatives, and we were worried about the pipes freezing,” Carlson said. “It was just the weather that made us take that precaution.”

The side stairwells in these residence halls have exposed pipes throughout the ceiling and the entrances into the hallways. In order to make sure these pipes didn’t freeze and then burst, they shut off entrance to the stairwells and propped open doors to all of the connected hallways.

These precautions were quickly taken in efforts to not experience the same issues as the flooding in Garrett-Strong Science Building

just days before.

Though these steps were taken to make sure everyone stays safe and to make sure the pipes weren’t going to burst, students still were displeased about the inconvenience.

“I heard people weren’t exactly happy about it, but we had to do what we had to do to make sure the pipes didn’t freeze,” Carlson said.

The resident assistants were asked to keep students informed about the changes being made to assist the ventilation, and students were receptive of not being able to enter the side doors.

Keatley Cotter, a resident assistant in Perrin Hall said that she thought that this was a valid reason for her to have to walk to the oth-

er doors, and it didn’t impact her daily life.

“I felt like this was mostly just a minor inconvenience rather than a problem,” Cotter said. “I don’t think it’s an issue to walk to a different door, so I wasn’t really hindered that much.”

This isn’t the first problem with heating that Hudson-Perrin residence halls have faced since its construction in 2007. According to the St. Joseph News-Press, after moving nearly 500 students into the building, staff reported that there was poor air pressure and insufficient heating and air conditioning systems among other problems.

These claims eventually led to a lawsuit filed in 2012 from North-

west against the contract company Gould Evans Architect Associates for \$2.5 million in damages, and they settled for \$300,000. This suit eventually came to an out-of-court settlement in 2016 for just over \$2 million among 13 separate parties.

As of now, the residence hall is dealing with the heating problems on a situational basis.

“The stairwells aren’t heated, and I don’t think there is any plan to heat them because the pipes haven’t been frozen before,” Carlson said. “It is probably just a random occurrence that happens once every couple of years. I don’t think they anticipated having this cold weather for this many days in a row.”

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CRIME LOG

for the week of March 4

Northwest Missouri State University Police Department

Feb. 23
There is an open investigation for stealing at Lot 11.

Feb. 27
Nolan Lewandowski, 19, and **Julian McNamara**, 18, were charged for possession of marijuana at Franken Hall.
Joshua Paskiewicz, 18, and **Glen Willoughby**, 18, were charged for possession of marijuana at Hudson Hall.

Maryville Department of Public Safety

Feb. 22
A summons was issued to **Helen D. Farmer**, 62, of Guilford, Missouri, for larceny on the 1300 block of North Main Street.
A key fob and glasses were recovered on the 100 block of East Third Street.

Feb. 23
There is an ongoing investigation for property damage on the 200 block of South Mulberry Street.
There was an accident between **Madison L. Wilmes**, 19, and **Hailey A. Hull**, 22, of Skidmore, Missouri, on South Main Street and West Thompson Street. A citation was issued to Wilmes for careless and imprudent driving.

Feb. 24
A summons was issued to **Levi N. Rueckert**, 27, of Country Club, Missouri, for failure to appear in court on the 400 block of North Market Street.
There is an ongoing investigation for larceny on the 1700 block of East First Street.

Feb. 25
There is an ongoing investigation for harassment on the 400 block of West Edwards Street.
There is an ongoing investigation for larceny on the 2800 block of South Main Street.
There was an accident between **Vanessa L. Parsons**, 45, and **McKenna J. Taylor**, 17, on the 900 block of South Munn Street.

Feb. 26
There was an accident between an unknown driver and **Raghavender G. Battula**, 26, on South Main Street and West Lincoln Street.

Feb. 27
There was a recovered ring on the 100 block of North Vine Street.

UPD

CONTINUED FROM A1

Highlighting community policing and safe policing at Northwest and in the community remains a focus of UPD. The Justice Department certification was key to allowing UPD to apply for funds necessary to make its annual programming and events happen, Williams said.

Williams said he wasn’t at Northwest when the department was just known as campus safety but that he likes to learn about the history of the department and how it became a legitimized police agency.

“Having the ability to run with others and be legitimized in the eyes of municipalities and county agencies is huge,” Williams said. “I stand strong with officers that we have and their abilities. When they leave here, they’re going to be leaders no matter where they go.”

UPD offers numerous awareness programs to educate students about relationship violence, sexual assault, crime prevention and emergency preparedness. Its Safe Ride Home program, launched in 2004 as a student initiative, has reduced violations for driving while intoxicated by more than 63%.

Williams said UPD’s work to create a culture of community policing has helped the department better understand strengths and weaknesses, areas that can be improved and what it can celebrate as a success.

“I don’t think I could have asked for a better group,” Williams said. “We have several different personalities, and I think that helps us grow.”

REGENTS

CONTINUED FROM A1

This leaves a smaller margin for dissension in a six-member quorum — a potential roadblock that might be exacerbated by the willingness of Regent Jason Klindt, R-Kearney, Mo., to vote against his colleagues.

“I would sort of describe it as, obviously, at eight (members) we’re at full strength,” Moore said in a phone interview Feb. 24, before Parson had announced any plans to nominate Coppinger or Durbin. “If we drop down to seven, it has little effect. The closer you get to five, though, the more risk you run.”

Moore said it’s his understanding that there were several applicants-in-waiting hoping to earn one of the governor’s nominations to fill the pair of vacancies. But specific prescriptions in the Board’s bylaws placed limitations on who those nominees could include one clause that prevents more than four members from hailing from the same political party. With Klindt; Roxana Sweeney, R-Liberty, Mo.; Lyd-

ia Hurst, R-Tarkio, Mo.; and Mel Tjeerdsma, R-Maryville, all serving as active regents, Parson, a Republican, was not able to nominate a candidate from his own party.

Additionally, the Board’s bylaws require at least two members to live outside Northwest’s historic service region, which includes close to 20 counties in the northwest corner of Missouri stretching down near the northern edge of the Kansas City metro area. Moore, the Board’s chairman from Cass County, is the only active member from outside the catchment. Durbin, if confirmed, will serve as the second.

While the Board hasn’t felt the procedural impact of the vacancies, Moore said he would still like to see the empty seats filled sooner rather than later “assuming that the quality of candidate would be the same.” Kelli R. Jones, the communications director for Parson’s office in Jefferson City, said the governor intended on nominating new regents before the end of the spring semester.

“Our state has around 250 boards and commissions – our recent focus has been on those that

are struggling to meet quorum and conduct business,” Jones said in an email before Parson announced his nominations. “While the board of regents has two vacancies, the remaining members have been able to meet and conduct business, etc.”

The nominations to the Board will come with a renewed sense of urgency — and perhaps scrutiny — as Northwest could soon face a rare transitional period. University President John Jasinski, who has served in the role since 2009, is a candidate to become the next president at Minnesota State University in Mankato. If selected among four finalists by MSU’s Board of Trustees later this month, Jasinski, the 10th president in Northwest’s 115-year history, would take over in Mankato July 1, leaving Northwest’s Board a four-month window to tab a replacement.

“I would say the issue of only having six Board members or five Board members would be a bit of a complicating factor if we have to go through that process,” Moore said before Parson’s announcement.

Moore said the typical timeline

for a university presidential search starts around October and culminates with the appointment of a new leader in early spring, suggesting Northwest would likely follow that model — implemented by MSU this year — if Jasinski were to depart. Instead of immediately searching for a permanent replacement, the Board would more likely name an in-house interim president to lead the University until a monthslong nationwide search is conducted, Moore said, though the chairman confirmed that no serious thought has been given to who the interim candidate might be.

Moore noted that any long term presidential search would not fall squarely on the Board’s shoulders but would be spearheaded by a search committee, made up of a wide range of stakeholders and Northwest community members. Still, the prospect of hiring Jasinski’s successor could make the current adaptation of the Board — and Parson’s recent nominees — the most consequential group of regents in more than a decade.

MCBRIDE

CONTINUED FROM A1

Before Maryville
McBride grew up a “Navy brat,” moving around to different areas when he was young. He lived in Virginia until about 6th grade, then moved to Braddyville, Iowa.

Growing up, McBride was interested in public service and politics but didn’t have a lot of opportunities to be involved. He enjoyed a class called American issues, where national topics of interest were discussed and examined.

Early on in school, he wanted to go to college and become a lawyer, but with both of his parents and grandparents serving in the military, eventually, that choice just made sense.

Right out of high school, McBride joined the Navy and was stationed in Japan. He also served during the Gulf War and was deployed amid an F-18 squadron on the USS Midway, a naval aircraft carrier that completed two tours of duty during Operation Desert Storm and Operation Desert Shield.

After he finished his service in the military, McBride wasn’t sure what to do. Eventually, he landed a manufacturing job at AKS Precision Ball Co. in Clarinda, Iowa. After AKS, McBride worked at Kawasaki Motors Manufacturing Corp. in Maryville and then got a job with Nucor-LMP doing logistics.

McBride, who has lived in Maryville for 10 years, said he has watched the town change and has seen its residents adjust to change. Now, McBride said he’s running for a City Council seat for more reasons than just making a positive impact on his community.

“I just didn’t want to take that approach of, ‘I’m just a guy that loves my town, and I want to make it a better place,’” McBride said.

On the issues
McBride said that while the COVID-19 pandemic affected people all over the world in vastly different ways, it has provided Maryville residents a closer look at issues that concern them.

“This past year we’ve all lived in kind of a bubble,” McBride said. “When you can’t get out, I think it brings more focus on where you’re at and what’s going on in your immediate vicinity.”

A Facebook page called the Maryville and Nodaway County Resident Council surfaced in fall 2020, initially intending to create a platform for unheard voices. The group would later battle misinformation and have to moderate to keep discussions civil. McBride, an early member of the group, has been a champion of encouraging people to channel concerns in a constructive way. In order to best understand the group’s members,



ADDALYNN BRADBURY | NW MISSOURIAN

John McBride talks outside Calvary Chapel in Maryville. In years prior, he helped lead a community ministry called Breaking Chains Concerts, which brings christian artists and speakers in the community to share their faith.

he created a poll to see what those in the group cared about most.

“I think you need input from everybody,” McBride said. “That kind of drew me to it, that there is an opportunity to make a positive difference in my town.”

McBride, like many in the group, has been one of the more outspoken individuals staunchly against the face-covering ordinance, which was recently extended through April. Alongside this issue, he said he sees local water quality, improving infrastructure and limiting government waste as top issues facing the Maryville community.

Though he has publicly criticized the City Council for these issues, McBride commended the work the city has done in the past year tackling the complexity of local water taste and odor issues. He said he would like to build upon those strides.

Two items that perhaps mean the most to McBride, though, are improving city roads and being fiscally conservative with taxpayer dollars — issues he said the Council could improve on.

“You see a lot of aesthetics throughout the community, which are great and draw people in,” McBride said, referring to recent tourism projects in the community. “But we don’t want to lose sight of where our foundation is. Our foundation is our water system, our roads, our sewer system.”

McBride said increasing visitors to the town is a benefit he would like to build on but improving city roads and the water system would sit higher on his public servant checklist.

“That’s the stuff that’s user-friendly to us; that’s the stuff we work with because we live here,”

McBride said. “The nice looking elements, the aesthetic things are great, but I don’t want to sacrifice the foundational things in place of those things.”

“Coming from the outside in, you know, something might look really awesome and then you get inside and you’re like, ‘My gosh I need a four-wheel drive in here,’ you know,” McBride said.

Though McBride has been critical of the city’s focus on revitalization, the City Council has not lost sight of the kind of foundation McBride hopes to seek out. In the past five years, issues of recurring potholes and seeking out ways to solve other ongoing issues with roads in the community have been a focus of public works. The city budget continues to win awards, and the Council seeks public input on the kinds of issues locals are passionate and recently more vocal about.

McBride said to curb this issue, he encourages a high local voter turnout so a variety of voices are heard.

Community service
Aside from being passionate about local and national politics, McBride is known in the community for a concert-based ministry he began a few years ago.

Breaking Chains Concerts brings in Christian music artists and speakers with a focus of “breaking spiritual chains.” For a short time after leaving the military, McBride battled depression and addiction. He eventually created the concert series with the help of his peers in an effort to help those in the community fighting the same battles.

“There’s a second level of Maryville; there’s a second level of every town that not a lot of people

see, and there’s a lot of young people and a lot of adults that are trapped in substance abuse, alcohol, depression,” McBride said. “God was able to break those chains for me, so it was put on my heart to be available for people and reach out like that.”

In the past, the group held concerts with popular christian artists at the Pavilion on Northwest’s campus and at Calvary Chapel. While the ministry could not hold concerts last year due to COVID-19 mitigation, McBride said he hopes shows will continue this year.

Because of this presence, McBride was also asked to serve on the board of a similar kind of ministry called Arc of Freedom, which is just getting its start in Maryville.

Another aspect McBride is known for in the community is his work at Nucor-LMP. Coworkers describe McBride as a person who takes pride in teamwork and communication.

An amplified voice
McBride said there isn’t much that would make him stand out from other candidates running for the two empty council seats this April. He said he identifies as a blue-collar person who wants to improve Maryville for its own residents.

“I try to be as honest and forthcoming as I can be in what I believe,” McBride said. “I’m actually hoping that doesn’t set me apart.”

“I’m hoping that everybody who’s running and everybody that’s currently on the Council - I hope that’s a characteristic they all embrace, because they may not agree with me, I may not agree with them, but if people know where you stand, it makes it a lot easier. I think when we vote for City Council, whether you agree with someone or not, you want to be able to trust them.”

SENATE

CONTINUED FROM A1

Jones began discussions by proposing a decrease of no specific amount. He said that he felt Student Senate had plenty of funds in the rollover budget, so a decrease would not be detrimental to the Senate’s functions.

“I think, right now, we have gotten to a point to where we are working with too much,” Jones said in the discussion.

The current fee is 50 cents per credit hour per student, but due to the excess amount of money from the past few years, Jones thought that it was pertinent to change the fee.

He then gave the example that if

the Senate decided to decrease the co-curricular fee by 10 cents per credit hour that Student Senate’s funds would decrease by roughly \$14,000. This decrease would save students enrolled in 12 credit hours about \$1.20 per semester.

Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs Kori Hoffmann said the projected budget can’t be confirmed until next year based on the fact that the fee is charged by credit hour.

“Credit hours fluctuate year to year, so it’s hard to project next year, and we won’t have an exact budget until we are a couple weeks into school and count how many credit hours there are,” Hoffmann said.

Jones also proposed the idea

that the Senate could continue with the same 50 cent fee but only keep around 40 cents per credit hour for their own budget. The other 10 cents leftover would be repurposed into a fund for a scholarship for the extra \$14,000.

“A lot of you guys talked about Canvas fees, online fees, class fees and other stuff,” Jones said. “At Student Senate we talk a lot about representing individual students, and making a scholarship to cover those fees would help us secure the connection with students and organizations.”

Jones said that this was just one way that the Student Senate could adjust its funds to more directly support students.

Some Student Senate members brought up concerns about a de-

crease or adjustment in the funds. These students said they were worried about having enough funds next year to carry out their duties.

Jones said even with a small decrease, he feels that the Senate would still be able to carry out its duties as normal, but they would just have to be more particular on the amount of money they give out to organizations.

Jones said he wanted senators to discuss the amount change in the co-curricular fee and to talk to their constituents on the topic before the Student Senate meets again March 9, when it plans to vote on the change. Jones said Student Senate may push back the vote until the following week.

Progress for gender equality is not done

MARY GRACE RICE
Missourian Columnist
@TheMissourian



In the early days of train transportation, women weren’t allowed to ride because people believed their bodies were incapable of handling 50 mph speeds, and their uteruses would fly out of their bodies if they tried.

Spoiler alert: Women proved them wrong.

Women crushed that myth, demonstrating they were capable, and they continued to prove sexist notions wrong. Women proved they were smart enough to vote, accountable enough to hold office, strong enough to be on the front lines, fit enough to run marathons and dedicated enough to be astronauts, among many accomplishments.

All of these things were banned or illegal until courageous women fought the system for equality.

In 1980, President Jimmy Carter declared “Women’s History Week,” which became a time for teachers to educate their classes on the vital role women played in history and their communities. Seven years later, Congress declared March Women’s History Month.

Today, women are in charge of countries, leading scientific discoveries and running their own businesses. Women make up half of the U.S. college-educated labor force, earning more bachelor’s and doctoral degrees than men. This is a significant milestone that the women who paved the way for us would be proud of, but they would also agree we have more work to do.

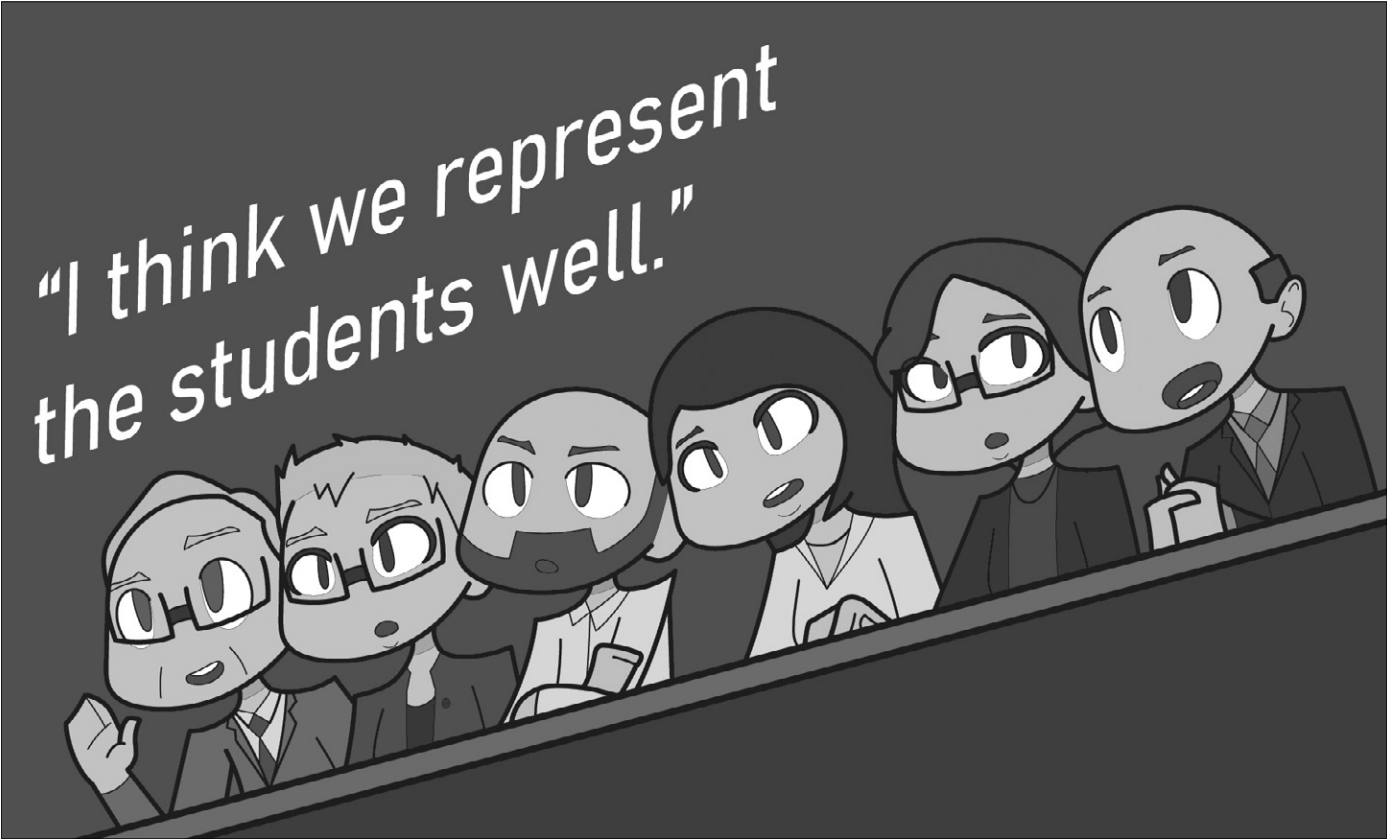
For instance, women still only earn roughly 82 cents to every dollar earned by males, and women with bachelor’s degrees only earn about 75% of what their male counterparts earn.

Almost 60% of women would earn a higher wage if they were paid the same as men with equivalent levels of education and experience. While the amount of women entering the workforce has risen, women are still generally expected to take care of the home.

Gender-based discrimination is still prevalent in the U.S., but we wouldn’t have come this far without the determination of women. I’ve taken plenty of things for granted that I’ve seen as a given, like the right to go to college or choose my own religion, but it hasn’t always been that way for women. It wasn’t until the ‘70s that women had control over how they could spend their money, buy birth control or work a “man’s job.”

We wouldn’t have these opportunities without the action of brave and determined women, and now it’s up to us to continue their endeavor toward gender equality, basic human rights and democracy. That’s why observing Women’s History Month is just as important now as it was when it was enacted. We celebrate to inspire people to keep working toward equality and chase their aspirations, even in the face of adversity.

Women’s History Month is a celebration, so join the commemoration. Continue to educate yourself on women’s accomplishments to help break gender stereotypes.



CHRIS YOUNG | NW MISSOURIAN

OUR VIEW:

Parson needed to nominate a person of color for regent

Representation is important. Those on a governing body need to be able to relate to the people they are making decisions for. The undermanned Northwest Board of Regents has one gaping issue when it comes to representation, and it needs to be fixed. One of the open seats should be filled by a person of color.

The current Board is made up of six people — three men and three women — all of whom are white. The mid-year equity report from the Office of Diversity and Inclusion estimates as of the fall of 2020 that 13% of the student population is made up of people of color. That percentage is almost the exact equivalent of one regent on the eight-person board.

Regents are nominated by Gov. Mike Parson and confirmed by the Missouri Senate much like Cabinet positions at the federal level. Parson’s administration in 2020 was plagued by accusations of feet dragging as his inaction with COVID-19 drew the ire of many in the Show-Me State. His inaction doesn’t end with the virus, however.

In March 2020, former Regent George Speckman, I-St. Joseph, Mo., quietly resigned from the Board. The bylaws state that a regent should “immediately” be appointed to fill the vacancy. Apparently, more than a year was still within Parson’s definition of immediately.

The Board of Regents is responsible for managing the University’s finances and hiring and firing administration members, among other things. A pandemic is quite possibly the worst time for the Board to be down a member, and with the turning of the new year, another vacancy opened up as former Regent Marilou Joyner’s, D-Kansas City, Mo., term expired Jan. 1.

Parson nominated two people for the open positions March 3, Stephen Copping, I-Kansas City, Mo., and Shanda Durbin, I-St. Joseph, Mo. Neither of these nominees is a person of color.

Now, the possible search for a new University president is looming over the Board of Regents as current President John Jasinski is a finalist for a vacancy at another university. Jasinski’s departure would trigger a monthslong search, the need to appoint an interim president and ultimately the final hiring decision to an almost-complete Board that will not have a single person of color as a regent.

If Northwest, and Missouri higher education as a whole, is really concerned with representing people of color, which they should be, then appointing a person of color to the Board should have been a top priority for Parson.

Since the initial vacancy 12 months ago, the call for representation in places

of power has strengthened significantly across the country. President Joe Biden’s campaign and subsequent administration focused heavily on making sure that people of color were represented in positions of power, a somewhat stark contrast to former President Donald Trump’s administration.

Twice in just over a month, Associate Provost of Diversity and Inclusion Justin Mallett has presented the mid-year equity report, its findings and areas of concern, to all-white governing bodies with mixed reactions in the Maryville community.

Mallett spoke to the Board in its January meeting about the lack of resources and the lack of trust that is often felt by people of color at Northwest and in Maryville. He used “we” statements because he can relate on a personal level to the strife of people of color in a predominantly white community like Northwest.

The current regents and new nominees cannot and will not ever be able to relate on a personal level to the experiences of a person of color. This lack of perspective will make their jobs more difficult as they, hopefully, try to do what’s best to address the issues that people of color face as Bearcats.

For people of color to be shown they truly matter at Northwest, they need to be represented on the Board of Regents.

YOUR VIEW:

Do you feel represented by the Board of Regents?

Rebecca Kucera
Freshman
Elementary Education



“I don’t have any personal experience with it, so I guess my opinion isn’t justified just because I don’t have personal experience, but from what I hear, yes.”

Robinson Oturugbum
Graduate Student
Information Systems



“I think so, yes. I don’t know much about them so I can’t say much, but I believe I trust that they are representing us well.”

A'Majine Pearson
Sophomore
Undecided



“Yes and no. Only because there are more people of minority groups that are stepping up and joining, but no because I feel like when they represent people of color they don’t represent all of us.”

THE STROLLER:

Your Bearcat loves people not on TikTok

One of the most prevalent personality traits among the eternally boring and insufferable people in my life is their unfounded hatred of TikTok. They believe — just like the football player who peaked in high school that was too cool to dance to the wobble at prom — that their nonparticipation in popular culture somehow makes them more interesting than everyone else.

It’s important to remember that these “anti-Tokers” — who are direct siblings to the people that post on social media about how

they will be taking a break from social media — are just another branch on the tree of pretentiousness that includes people who only drink pour-over coffee and guy that mansplains to women that they don’t really understand “The Wolf of Wall Street.”

These brave few stand in the face of an app that supplies them with a perfectly good source of entertainment, and we should applaud them for it. No, it’s not at all exhausting to have to stop mid-conversation in a group set-

ting to try and catch you up on an extremely popular TikTok

What’s even better about these people is that they will often decide to hate something merely because it’s connected to TikTok. It was super endearing when I had a friend go from loving a song I was playing in my car to hating it in four seconds when I told him that I first heard it on TikTok. Jake, I had to overcome the fact that you were from Council Bluffs, Iowa, so you can overcome the fact that I heard this

song on an app first and didn’t magically happen upon it while wandering through a forest.

So thank you to those of you who still haven’t downloaded TikTok. Please continue to show us TikToks you saw on Instagram six months after the rest of us. You definitely aren’t reinforcing the idea that you are a pompous and wretched person to be around.

The Stroller has been a tradition since 1918 and does not reflect the views of The Northwest Missourian.

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BLOWOUT
CONTINUED FROM A8

“When we started getting rolling, things kind of went downhill from there for (Emporia),” Hudgins said. “I feel like they’re still a good team; we just had a really good game.”

Hudgins alone led the Hornets by 3 points at the break. He did so while making 77% of his shots, including six 3-pointers on seven attempts.

“I mean, we just try to feed the hot hand. If I’m on, I’m on. If I’m not, I’m not,” Hudgins said. “I was on tonight. I was just reading the defense, seeing what they were giving me, and I was taking it.”

McCollum has waited for the Bearcats to play that brand of defense all season. It’s something he’s seen at times, he said, but not something he’s seen throughout a full 40 minutes of action. Despite the Bearcats scoring their season-high 100 points, McCollum was more so impressed with their efforts on the other end of the court.

Northwest limited the Hornets to shoot 36% from the field in the first half, including zero 3-pointers on five attempts. Emporia eventually finished the game with a clip of 44.2% from the field and 25% from deep.

“I thought, defensively, we were really locked in. I mean, I haven’t seen us defend like that all season long,” McCollum said. “I don’t

know if we were waiting on it or what, but I’ve been fighting for that.”

After Northwest’s 95-59 win over Nebraska-Kearney Feb. 25, Bernard described the Bearcats as a group of fighters. Hudgins has referred to the ‘Cats as that too, specifically after their Jan. 7 loss to Washburn.

When they faced Emporia, the Bearcats threw the first blow. It landed.

“Generally, in a postseason game, it’s a fight,” McCollum said. “I thought that we wanted to fight, and we initiated it, and we swung first, as they say, and we were able to continue that fight throughout.”

In the aftermath of their domination of Emporia, which gave the Bearcats a Division II-best 17 wins in a row, McCollum reflected on everything he’s wanted to see this year from his team.

Specifically, he’s wanted to watch the Bearcats be hungry, play stifling defense and impose their will on opposing teams. They’re now catching his eye.

“They’re attacking. It’s definitely a hunger. They’re in attack mode, and I’m just gonna sit here and watch it,” McCollum said about the Bearcats. “You know, it’s pretty fun. It’s pretty neat to watch those kids play. I just sit back and watch the show; that’s what I do, act like I’m coaching.”

Northwest will get another



ADDALYNN BRADBURY | NW MISSOURIAN

Northwest men’s basketball freshman forward Daniel Abreu fights through contact for a layup during the Bearcats’ 100-61 win over Emporia State March 3 in Bearcat Arena. The 39-point win advances the Bearcats to the MIAA Tournament Semifinals against Central Oklahoma March 5 in Bearcat Arena. The Bearcats are 1-0 this year against UCO.

er chance to fight March 5 inside of Bearcat Arena against No. 5-seeded Central Oklahoma in the MIAA Tournament Semifinals. The Bearcats understand what’s on the line for other teams. They’ve pretty much secured their ticket to the Central Region Tournament, but oth-

er teams are vying to capture the MIAA’s automatic bid to Aberdeen, South Dakota.

Each member of Northwest’s program knows the Bearcats get each team’s best shot. They’re not expecting anything less the rest of the season.

“This is win or go home for

some teams,” Hudgins said. “I feel like we’ve had a target on our back the whole year, and we’re at our house during the MIAA Tournament, I think the target is even bigger for us. We’ve got teams’ best shots, and this is the last shot for some of them, and, it’s just, the pressure still on.”

COLUMN
CONTINUED FROM A8

In their three-hour bus ride back to Emporia, the Hornets will carry that loss. And with it, they ought to carry a lesson, too — one a seasoned coach like Doty should have learned by now: do not poke the Bearcats.

“We had motivation regardless,” McCollum said in the aftermath of one of his team’s most dominating performances of the season. “For me, if you need something like that to get you going, then you are probably in the wrong sport and profession.”

The Bearcats very likely would have won the game if Doty, who has never coached the Hornets to a win over Northwest, hadn’t tweeted the video. And that’s what makes the video itself so nonsensical. There is no reason for a heavy underdog — the runt of the MIAA’s Conference Tournament litter — to rattle the cage of the biggest dog in the fight.

“We had motivation regardless.”
-BEN MCCOLLUM

And while the Bearcats won’t openly admit it — Hudgins, when asked more than once about the tweet, repeated the phrase “It was a really good video” — the short film served more as a taunting of the No. 1 team in the country than it did as an inspiration for the No. 8 seed in the conference. It undoubtedly motivated the wrong team.

“Generally, in a postseason game, it’s a fight,” McCollum said, before he was ever asked about the video. “And I thought that we wanted the fight. And we initiated it, and we swung first, as they say.”

Doty’s Twitter feed suggested the Hornets were ready for a fight. But for 40 minutes of basketball in Bearcat Arena, they never swung back.

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ADDALYNN BRADBURY | NW MISSOURIAN

Maryville High School senior Emily Cassavaugh fights to shoot the ball against Savannah High School junior Olivia Stites in their girls varsity district tournament March 2. Cassavaugh scored 10 points of the Spoofhounds 60-42 win of the night.

'Hounds beat MEC rival to advance in districts

CORBIN SMITH
Sports Reporter | @curly_corbs

For the third straight season, Maryville girls basketball will compete in a district championship game. The Spoofhounds (22-1) earned their spot in the final game of the Class 4 District 16 Tournament with a 60-42 victory over MEC foe Savannah (14-11) March 2 in the 'Hound Pound.

"It feels good," Maryville coach Quentin Albrecht said. "We're in that time of the year in districts where if you lose, you go home. This is the outcome you have to have, or you turn in your uniforms."

With Maryville having the luxury of home-court advantage throughout the tournament, a uniform check-in



would be the undesirable indication of the season's conclusion along with a sullen bus ride back to town. The Spoofhounds' semifinal win entertained a packed gym, along with earning them another game in the white uniforms.

Unlike previous games, which featured empty seats, Maryville students and families piled into the 'Hound Pound. As the tip fell in favor of Maryville, the student section rose to cheer on its girls team. Despite winning the tip, Maryville missed 3-pointers on back-to-back possessions to start the game.

"When we talk about shot selection, we talk about good, better, best," Albrecht said. "Every shot we took this game was good, but we want to run away from good. We

UP NEXT

MHS vs. Benton
6 p.m. March 4
'Hound Pound

want a better shot and then a best shot. Are we disappointed with our shot selection? No. Could our shot selection be better? Yes.”

Savannah was the first on the scoreboard, but it didn't take long for the Spoofhounds to respond. The first basket of the game for Maryville came in lieu of a bullet pass from senior forward Emily Cassavaugh to senior guard Serena Sundell, who made an easy layup under the basket.

FULL STORY ONLINE:
NWMISSOURINEWS.COM

Women's season ends with loss to Fort Hays

CALVIN SILVERS
Sports Reporter | @CalvinSilvers

With 48 seconds remaining on the scoreboard Feb. 27 in Bearcat Arena, Northwest women's basketball coach Austin Meyer turned to one of the officials to ask for a timeout.



The timeout wasn't used to draw up a game-winning play or give the team a quick break. Instead, it was used to allow the program's seniors to take one last step onto the hardwood to cap off their four-year journey.

"I wanted to make sure they got recognition, you know, kids who have been in the program for four years, kids that were here before I got the job. They've been great. Great people who represent our program in a positive way," Meyer said. "Where our program is at now compared to where it was before they got here, it's at a much higher level. I think they have a lot to do with that in how they work and how they've gotten better."

The 275 fans in attendance rose to their feet, showing gratitude for the six seniors taking a program that was 5-22 overall their freshman year, to a team that competed until the last game. Hugs and words of encouragement and thankfulness were exchanged between the teammates, proving the game goes beyond a final score.

Northwest (7-15) was hoping to slip into the MIAA Tournament as a No. 8 seed with a win over No. 7-ranked Fort Hays State (20-2) but couldn't get the job done, losing 70-47.

“You know, it’s kind of upsetting, but honestly, this year we’ve had a ton of adversity with three would-be starters tearing their ACL and all the COVID start and stop,” freshman guard Molly Hartnett said. “I honestly think we’ve played pretty well throughout the season, definitely will keep getting better in the offseason and prepare better for next season.”

Northwest went the first seven minutes without producing a single point. The Tigers used the dry spell to their advantage, going on a 14-0 run in which six different players contributed points. They entered the locker room with a 60-27 lead.

Meyer and company were starting to see their season slip away, but he kept his team motivated to try and close the lead in the second half of action.

Northwest never found its touch coming out of the locker room and was held to 11-for-33 shooting in the second half. Hartnett, the leading scorer for Northwest this season, was the only Bearcat in double figures, scoring 10 points and dishing out three assists.

With freshmen scoring 41.3% of the points in games this season for the Tigers, their dominance served as a reminder for what awaits a rebuilding Northwest team.

"It's going to take a lot to get up to their level. I mean, they're great—they're great," Hartnett said. "It's

going to take a lot of hard work and great work in the offseason ... and we have a lot of good incoming freshmen coming in, so I think that will be a good boost for us next season."

Northwest entered the final four-game stretch of the regular season as the No. 8 seed — the cutoff for participating in the MIAA Tournament after COVID-19 forced the conference to reduce the normal field of 10 teams.

The Bearcats had two chances to pick up a much-needed win against Washburn, which included the Feb. 20 matchup coming down to the wire, eventually dropping that game 41-38. History repeated itself when the 'Cats tried to create more separation in the standings Feb. 25 against Nebraska-Kearney but lost that game 50-53.

The close contests, mixed in with a substantial loss to Fort Hays, was a personification of the type of

season the Bearcats had.

"Yeah, it was tough," Meyer said in the aftermath of his team's loss to Hays. "Today we got in a runt offensively, and they're really good. They did some different things. ... A lot of it was them; they're a really good team, obviously. They've won 15 in a row, so we were just a little outmatched today."

Northwest can use this season as a learning tool. After multiple postponements and losing three starters to injury, the Bearcats will look to grow. The 'Cats were top 5 in the MIAA in scoring defense and had the fewest turnovers. Meyer and his team feel like they're growing from a systematic standpoint, but shot-making will be the biggest focal point in the offseason.

FULL STORY ONLINE:
NWMISSOURINEWS.COM

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ANDREW WEGLEY | NW MISSOURIAN

Junior guard Trevor Hudgins floats toward the rim for a layup in the first half of Northwest men's basketball's 100-61 win over Emporia State in the quarterfinals of the MIAA Tournament March 3 in Bearcat Arena. Hudgins, who was named the MIAA Player of the Year hours before the matchup, scored 31 points while shooting 11-of-15 from the field and 7-of-10 from beyond the arc.

Bearcats stomp Hornets in first round

JON WALKER
Sports Editor | @ByJonWalker

A little more than six and a half hours prior to Northwest men's basketball's matchup with Emporia State March 3 in the MIAA Tournament Quarterfinals, the MIAA announced its yearly awards.

Northwest junior guard Trevor Hudgins was named the MIAA Player of the Year for the second time in as many seasons. It marked the sixth straight year the award has been given to a Northwest player, starting with Justin Pitts in 2015.

Northwest junior guard Diego Bernard was named the MIAA Defensive Player of the Year for the first time in his collegiate career, marking the third consecutive season a Bearcat has been recognized as the league's best defender.

Northwest coach Ben McCollum was named



the MIAA Coach of the Year for the seventh time in a row, marking the eighth time he's won the award. His first was in 2012.

The end-of-season awards were littered with Bearcats, and they showed why Wednesday night in Bearcat Arena, as No. 1 Northwest defeated the No. 8-seeded Hornets 100-69.

"I don't worry about individual stats or accomplishments that much," Hudgins said in the aftermath of the 39-point win. "I feel like tonight we just played really good with a lot of energy, very intense, a lot of focus. Emporia State, they're a really good team with a lot of good players, and we were just making shots and getting stops."

Hudgins tallied a game-high 31 points against the Hornets (11-12), including 22 in the first half. It was the eighth 30-point performance of his collegiate career.

His totals alone were better than Emporia's

UP NEXT

Northwest vs. Central Oklahoma
5 p.m. March 5
Bearcat Arena

in the first half. After 20 minutes of action, the Bearcats (22-1) led the Hornets 60-19, which is the largest halftime margin ever in an MIAA Tournament game. At one point in the second half, Northwest led by as many as 50.

It was the fourth time this season Northwest held its opponent under 20 points in the first half. The Bearcats held a 3-point advantage over the Hornets a little less than four minutes into the game. Northwest went on a 21-4 run over the next 7 minutes and 38 seconds.

SEE BLOWOUT | A6

Tweet motivates Northwest men's team

ANDREW WEGLEY
Columnist
@andrewwegley



Seven hours and 22 minutes before his team was blown out by Northwest men's basketball and promptly booted from the MIAA Tournament, Emporia State coach Craig Doty made what should now, with the benefit of hindsight, go down as a mistake.

Doty, the enthusiastic third-year coach of one of the conference's most average teams, tweeted an apparent hype video, in which an unseen narrator described the Bearcats as "the best in the nation," before switching course.

"In all honesty," the narrator said, "I've got my money on the Hornets from Emporia State."

The video, which had garnered more than 1,400 views at the time of this writing, noted the meaninglessness of Northwest's accolades — which include a near-sweep of the MIAA Of The Year awards for coach Ben McCollum and junior guards Trevor Hudgins, the player of the year, and Diego Bernard, the defensive player of the year. It described the Hornets as "starving," "hungry" and "here to eat." It proclaimed Emporia's humble origins — a team that has "come from nothing."

"And that's fine," the narrator said. "Because the most danger-



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Northwest men's basketball coach Ben McCollum, front, directs his players in the second half of the Bearcats' 100-61 win over Emporia State March 3. Pictured in the background is Emporia State coach Craig Doty.

ous man is the one who has nothing to lose."

In that sense, the narrator was spot on. The Bearcats could have lost to Emporia and still made a trip to the NCAA's Central Region Tournament later this month. The game, for Northwest, was largely inconsequential.

In reality, the Hornets were the only team on the court with something to lose. Their bid to upset Northwest. Their chance at an MIAA Tournament Championship. Their long, hard-fought season. Nearly eight hours after Doty posted the video to his Twitter account, the Hornets had lost it all.

"It was a really well made video," McCollum said after the game, insisting it had no impact on the outcome. The head coach had watched it, though. And his

starting point guard, who captured his second consecutive MIAA Player of the Year Award this week, had watched it too. And, hours later, Hudgins and company efficiently and forcefully ushered the Hornets out of Bearcat Arena and out of the MIAA Tournament with an embarrassing 39-point loss to show for it.

SEE COLUMN | A6

BEARCATS SET SPRING DATE

After No. 1 Northwest men's basketball beat the No. 8-seed Emporia State Hornets March 3 at Bearcat Arena, the Bearcats ensured Northwest's campus will be the host site for the rest of the MIAA Tournament. Northwest will host the final three games of the MIAA Tournament in Maryville March 5 and 6.

Perhaps the energy will be different, considering it's now the postseason, but nothing will change for the workers in Bearcat Arena. The format Northwest Athletics implemented before the season got the Bearcats through all 11 of their home games. Northwest Athletics is hoping it gets numerous teams through the end of the weekend.

Just as the 11 men's games prior to the MIAA Tournament, Athletics is limiting attendance to 25%, a percentage the MIAA's member institutions collectively settled on prior to the season starting in November. In Bearcat Arena, that's approximately 400 spectators, according to Northwest Director of Athletics Andy Peterson.

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